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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany

DATE DISTR. 12 April 1955

SUBJECT Soviet Units in East Germany and USSR
50X1

NO. OF PAGES 18

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Units in East Germany

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Subordi- nation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>CO and Remarks</u>	
Eighth Army	Unk	Unk	Chief of Staff, Gen Major SHANIN	50X1
85th Sep Gd Bn	Eighth Army	Hildburg- hausen (N 50-26, E 10-46)	In May 1953, u/i Co of this Bn relieved 2d Co, 93d Bn in Bockstadt (N 50-25, E 10-54) on border duty	50X1
93rd Sep Gd Bn	Eighth Army	Meiningen (N 50-33, E 10-25)	CO was Lt Col PAVLOV (fnu). Es- timated strength of 700 officers and EM.	50X1
			an infantry unit; members of this unit wore magenta color, i.e., infantry, shoulder boards. However, it guarded a section of Soviet/US zone border	50X1

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Unit	Subordi- nation	Location	CO and Remarks	
				50X1
				50X1
			in East Germany.	50X1
				50X1
			this Bn was formed about	50X1
			May 1952 for the express purpose of	50X1
			guarding the border.	
			in September 1954, just	
			prior to Gen-Maj SHANIN's staff	
			visit, there were seven such	50X1
			security Bns under the Eighth Army	
			jurisdiction.	50X1
			the general might in-	
			spect all or any one of these Bns.	50X1
			All of them guarded various sectors	50X1
			of the USSR/US zonal border. (See	
			page 12 and 14.)	50X1
1st Co 93d Sep Sec Bn	93d Sep Sec Bn	To the right of 2d Co	this company guarded	50X1
			about 20 km of USSR/US zonal border	
				50X1
2d Co 93d Sep Sec Bn	93d Sep Sec Bn	200 m from Schafhausen (N 50-34, E 10-10)	CO was Sr Lt SKORODUMOV (fnu).	50X1
			Approximate	
			strength was five officers, 15 NCOs,	50X1
			35 PFCs, and 35 Pvts. Until May	
			1953, it was located in Bockstadt.	
			Co guarded USSR/US zonal	50X1
			border, sector from Frankenreim	
			(N 50-32, E 10-04) to Stedtlingen	
			(N 50-32, E 10-17). (See pages	50X1
			10, 11, 15, 16, 17 and 18.)	
3rd Co 93d Sep Sec Bn	93d Sep Sec Bn	To the left of 2d Co	this company	50X1
			guarded about 20 km of USSR/US	
			zonal border to the left of 2d Co.	
4th Co 93d Sep Sec Bn	93d Sep Sec Bn	Meiningen		50X1
				50X1
				50X1
			the	
			Co was located in Bockstadt. This	
			4th Co gave border guard training	
			to newly arrived recruits. On cer-	
			tain Soviet holidays and emergencies	
			it also reinforced the other three	
			Cos at the border.	50X1
SMG, Comm, Svc Plats	93d Sep Sec Bn	Meiningen	These three platoons in Meiningen	
			were not part of any company.	50X1
117th Rifle Regt (?)	Unk	Meiningen	troops of this	50X1
Hq & one			unit wore magenta (infantry)	
of its u/i Bns.			shoulder boards but had u/i tanks	
			and u/i arty. They also had new	50X1
			carbines, SMGs, and LMGs	
				50X1

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Unit	Subordi- nation	Location	CO and Remarks	
U/i NGO School	117th Rifle Regt	Meiningen		50X1
Soviet Komenda- tura	117th Rifle Regt (?)	Meiningen	Comprised about 15 to 20 officers, NCOs, and Pvts. No further informa- tion.	50X1
Air Observ- ation Personnel (VNOS)	Unk	See Remarks	They numbered about 18. To each of the three companies of the 93d Sep Sec Bn deployed along the USSR/US zonal border (1st, 2d, and 3d com- panies) six of these VNOS personnel, including a sergeant, were attached. "postvnos- niki" (VNOS personnel).	50X1 50X1 50X1
U/i Soviet Military Hospital	Unk	Erfurt (N 51-00, E 11-02)		50X1
U/i Armored Troops & Arty Troops	Unk	Vicinity of Erfurt		50X1
120th Rifle Regt	Unk	Unk		50X1
			Apparently, prior to May 1952, platoons of this regt and possibly of other u/i regts guarded the USSR/ US zonal border. About May 1952, they were replaced by the companies of separate security battalions.	50X1

Units in the USSR

2.

Unit	Subordi- nation	Location	CO and Remarks	
U/i Mili- tary Instal- lation	Unk	About 18 km west of Kamyshlov (N 56-50, E 62-40) Sverdlovsk Oblast	basic training referred to it as "young soldier's course" (kursmolodovo boitsa) See pages 6, 7, 8, and 9.	50X1 50X1 50X1

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<u>Unit</u>	<u>Subordi- nation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>CO and Remarks</u>
U/i Military Training Co	Unk	About 18 km west of Kamyshlov	<div>50X1</div> <div>The company comprised about 150 trainees.</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>Co CO was an Arty</div> <div>Capt, GREKOV (fnu)</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>most officers</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>and soldiers at this installation were artillery shoulder boards. The installation was called "Yelanskiye Lagerya".</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>about 50</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>122-mm M1938 howitzers, a few 152-mm</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>M1943 howitzers, a few 120-mm M1938</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>mortars and some 122-mm Corps guns</div> <div>M1931/37.¹</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div>
U/i Labor Bn	Unk	About 18 km west of Kamyshlov	<div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>The Labor Battalion</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>was located in the immediate vicinity of the military installation where</div> <div>basic training,</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>(see Point 3, page 9)</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>Soldiers wore black shoulder boards and the same uniform as other Soviet soldiers. However, instead of the usual Soviet high boots, they wore the laced boots partly covered with footwraps (obmotkiy). They were called a Labor Battalion (Rabochiy Batalyon).</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>Personnel of this</div> <div>labor battalion</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>had not received any mili-</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>tary training, not even basic train-</div> <div>ing. They only received political</div> <div>training twice a week. The rest of</div> <div>the time they performed labor such</div> <div>as unloading freight trains.</div> <div>50X1</div> <div>50X1</div>

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50X1 f. Whenever a vehicle left the company area, the Charge of Quarters noted in a special notebook, the number of the vehicle, the make and kinds of weapons carried on the vehicle and by its passengers, and the name of the ranking passenger. The latter had to sign his name in the notebook. 50X1

50X1 The Company CO had to authorize personally any vehicle leaving the company area. He would notify the Charge of Quarters, who in turn would notify the guard at the gate (see Point 12, page 18).

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Sketch of Unidentified Military Installation
(N 56-50, E 62-40) (see page 9).

Note: All dimensions are approximate. All buildings are one-story unless otherwise stated.

LEGEND

1. U/i railroad station: about 18 km west of Kamyshlov, presumably was on line running between Sverdlovsk and Kamyshlov. [redacted] this small station or siding was only there for military purposes. [redacted] the railroad was double tracked. 50X1
2. Small village of Kalinovka, comprising unknown number of houses. [redacted] 500 small houses. [redacted] there was an u/i OCS in this vicinity. [redacted] 20 OCS students wearing blouses (not pullover tunics) and shoulder boards [redacted] were different from others in that they were [redacted] framed in white. 50X1
3. Labor Battalion area: the battalion occupied several wooden barracks about 30 x 20 m. 50X1
4. Club; used [redacted] training company, a labor battalion, and a few other u/i troops for the showing of movies: Brick building 50 x 20 m. 50X1
5. Dirt road: in good condition, about eight meters wide. 50X1
6. About five wooden warehouses: containing unknown amounts of artillery ammunition, mines, shells; about 50 x 30 m. [redacted] 50X1
7. Small POL warehouse: located at about 500 m from the road: Gasoline, oil, and lubricants were stored there. This installation also had about 50 gasoline tanks of varying sizes. [redacted] These tanks were slightly sunk into the ground at the base and were about completely covered by a slanting roof, which, on both sides, reached the ground. These roofs were covered with earth and dirt and reached a height of about three meters. [redacted] 50X1
8. Hospital: consisting of several wooden houses. [redacted] it held possibly 30 people. [redacted] Inasmuch as there were many houses on both sides of the road (point 5) [redacted] 50X1
9. Brick building: about 80 x 20 m, containing baths, uniform issue point, and possibly other service points. 50X1
10. U/i small river: about 30 m wide, flowing eastward. 50X1
- 10a. Bridge: either wood or metal, source did not remember. It was not large. Immediately west of bridge there was an ice-breaker made of wood. 50X1
11. Dirt road: which crossed river #10 somewhere [redacted] 50X1
12. Barracks housing Training Company 03516K: wooden building 50 x 15 m. 50X1
13. About five to seven barracks: all wooden and about 50 x 15 m. Most of them unoccupied, because soldiers normally living there had left for a summer camp in the vicinity of Kamyshlov. One of these barracks housed a company of u/i soldiers, apparently members of the u/i military installation of [redacted] training company [redacted] This entire area (12 and 13) was vaguely referred to as the "Artillery Regt" (artpolk) by trainees. 50X1

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14. Dirt road, on which source once saw u/i SP gun.
15. Small latrines, built out of wood.
16. Paths leading through barracks area: This entire part of the military installation was on a slight elevation.
17. PX for military personnel and their dependents: wooden building about eight by six meters.
18. Wooden messhall: 50 x 20 m.
19. U/i building: lower window panes painted, approximately 25 x 25 m. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
20. U/i two-story brick building under construction: Possibly a garage and automobile repair shop as [redacted] pits for lubricating and working on cars. 50X1
- 20a. Barbed wire fence: two meters high.
- 20b. Gate.
21. Large open shed under construction.
22. U/i small village.
23. U/i headquarters building or club building: [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
24. U/i firing range and training field [redacted] targets and trenches there. 50X1
25. Observation tower: about 15 m high, with one guard.
26. Open wooden shed: 30 m long, without walls, with a roof. Under it stood howitzers and Studebaker trucks. 50X1
27. Small, wooden, earth-covered POL warehouse with three gasoline tanks: Dimensions unknown.
28. Unfinished vegetable storage shed: [redacted] 50X1
[redacted]
29. Area: About 100 m in circumference, where classes were held in the open air. These classes included political lectures and lectures on service manuals. Seats were made out of earth.
30. Unknown number of holes: dug for possible gun emplacements. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] guns could be placed into the holes and then covered with camouflage nets. The holes were about one meter deep, and trainees were told that guns could be fired out of these holes. 50X1
31. U/i dirt road.
32. Training field: [redacted] barbed wire and trenches in this field. 50X1
33. Wooded area (mixed coniferous and deciduous trees).

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34. Area containing gymnastic apparatus, such as horizontal bars, rings, parallel bars, and side-horses. This equipment was in the open air.
35. Dirt road: leading to village (22).
36. Unknown number of officers' homes. These stucco or brick houses measured about 20 x 15 m and had possibly two or more stories.
37. Guarded small wooden hut: about 2 x 2 m. Water in cans was issued here.
38. Wooden warehouse: 10 x 15 m, containing food products such as flour, tea, and sugar.

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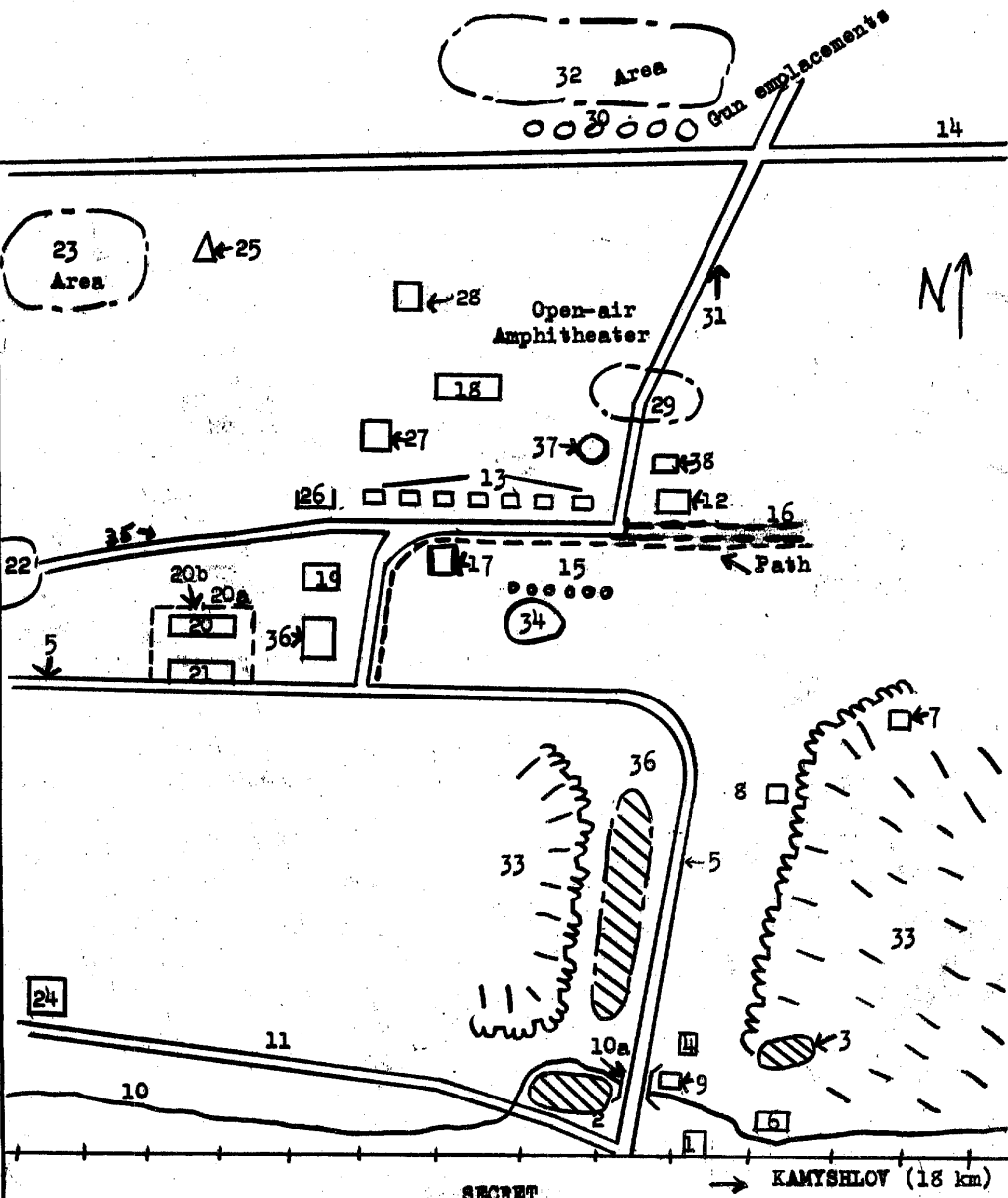
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50X1 Sketch of Unidentified Military Installation 18 km West
of KAMYSHLOV (5650N-6240E), Sverdlovsk Oblast

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Note: This sketch does not preclude the possible existence of other installations, houses, etc.. This sketch is not drawn to scale.



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Pinpoint Location and Sketch of Area Occupied by 2d Co, 93d
Sep Security Bn in Bockstadt (N 50-25, E 10-54). Prior
to May 1953. (See sketch, page 11).

LEGEND:

1. Dirt road leading to Eisfeld (N 50-25, E 10-55).
2. Small path.
3. Stone wall, about 2½ m high.
4. Metallic meshed wire fence, about two meters high.
5. Unidentified small river.
6. Gate (barrier) guarded by one soldier during the daytime, and by two soldiers at night.
7. Kaserne of the 2d Co, 93d Sep Sec Bn, a large three-story brick building about 60 x 40 m housing the entire 2d Co. The building comprised headquarters, offices billets for officers and EM of 2d Co and for six attached VNOS personnel, messhall, and baths. At that time (1952) officers were not allowed to have their families with them. 50X1
50X1
8. Path leading to and from kaserne.
9. Wooden one-story garage, for two trucks (one ZIS and one GAZ). There was also a pit for working on trucks. The third unit vehicle, a Willys jeep, stood out in the open.
10. Pit, about five by four meters, covered by a wooden roof, which in turn was covered with earth. It was used to store POL products for the above-mentioned three vehicles.
11. Path leading across country towards GDR US Zone border about one kilometer away. Patrols used this path to reach the border.
12. Road from Harras (coordinates unknown) to Herbartswind (coordinates unknown).
13. Area occupied by 4th Co, 93d Sep Sec Bn until October 1952 at which time the 4th Co moved to Meiningen (N 50-33, E 10-25).

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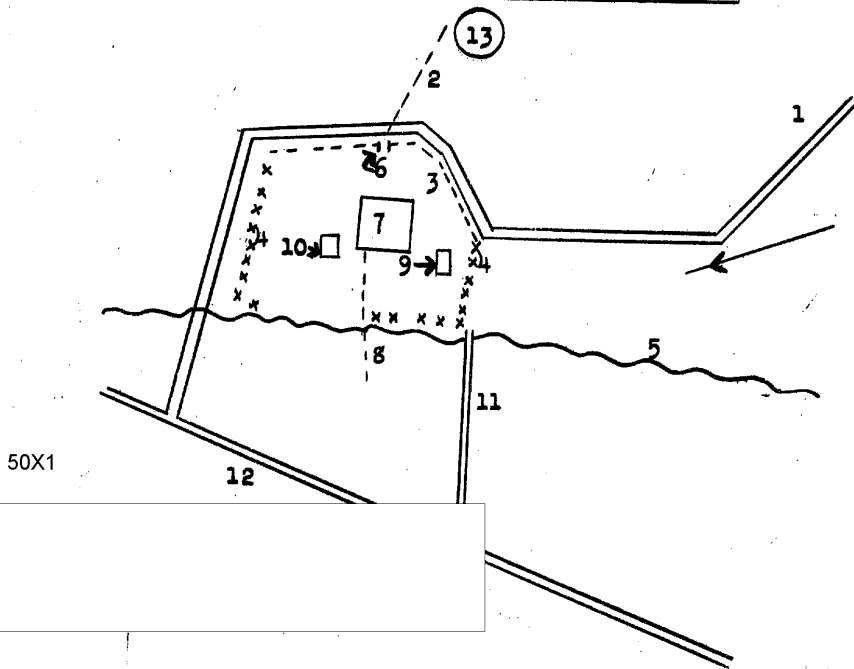
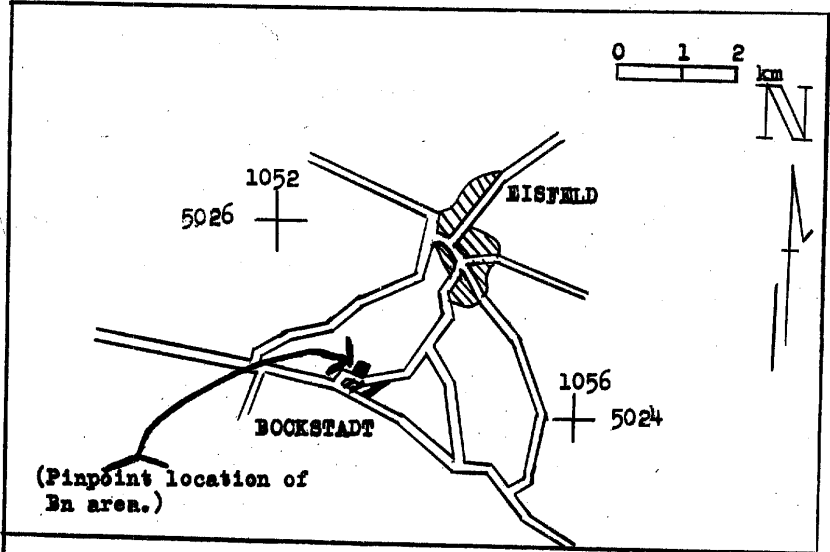
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Pinpoint Location and Sketch of Area Occupied by 2d Co, 93d

Sep Security Bn in BOCKSTADT (5025N-1054E), Prior to May 1953

(This sketch is not to scale.)



Map Reference: GSGS 4416, Sheet 5-5
COBURG
Scale: 1 : 100,000

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50X1

Sketch of Military Installations in Meiningen
 (N 50-33, E 10-25) (See sketch, page 14).

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LEGEND:

1. Railroad line.
2. Meiningen Railroad station.
3. U/i street in Meiningen leading past railroad station.
4. Asphalt road.
5. Main road.
6. Iron gate guarded by personnel of the 117th Rifle Regt: the entrance and check-point for the entire installation occupied by both the 93d Sep Sec Bn and 117th Rifle Regt (kontrol'noypropusknoy punkt).
7. One-story brick building: about 30 x 15 m, containing guardhouse, billets, and offices for personnel guarding the gate, and possibly other facilities.
8. Paved road: about five meters wide.
9. One-story brick shed: about 40 x 15 m, containing u/i vehicles of 117th Rifle Regt, painted dark green and having large iron doors. 50X1
 about five inflatable rubber boats 50X1
10. Club, lecture hall, movie house, and gymnasium for 117th Rifle Regt: a one-story brick building, about 40 x 15 m, painted dark green. 50X1
11. Four-story brick building: about 40 x 40 m, housing the 93d Sep Sec Bn Hq, the 4th Co, the SMG platoon, the Signal or Comm. platoon, and the Serv platoon. This building contained the Hqs, offices, billets for NCO's and Pvts; supply rooms for food such as potatoes, vegetables, and meat. It also contained the guardhouse 50X1
12. Billets for officers of 117th Rifle Regt and their families: three-story brick building, about 60 x 20 m. 50X1
 a small school bus took some children to a Soviet school. 50X1
13. One-story brick building: about 50 x 20 m. 50X1
 potatoes being kept there and the wives of officers used it to hang their washing out to dry. Otherwise it seemed almost unused. 50X1
14. Small German civilian hospital: one-story brick building. About 30 x 15 m.
15. Soccer field: for personnel of 117th Rifle Regt and 93d Sep Sec Bn.
16. Motor pool garage and vehicle repair shop of 93d Sep Sec Bn: one-story brick building, painted dark green, 80 x 25 m, containing about 20 vehicles: one ambulance, one three-axle Studebaker wrecking truck, two Willys jeeps, three sedans, one Studebaker radio and signal truck, about five or more ZIS trucks, and about five or more u/i military trucks.

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17. Billets for officers of 93d Sep Sec Bn: four-story brick building, 50 x 30 m.
18. Warehouse of 93d Sep Sec Bn: one-story brick building, painted dark green, 50 x 30 m. It contained in the cellar coal, bulbs, stoves, paints, and other supplies. On the first floor: the underwear and towel issue point for company; the carpenter work shop; scrap metal dump for scrap metal from old vehicles; and a clay dump.
19. Gasoline station for 93d Sep Sec Bn: two to three pumps.
20. Kaserne for 117th Rifle Regt: red four-or five-story building 100 x 40 m. This building also contained the 117th Rifle Regt PX, which was open to personnel of 93d Sep Sec Bn.
21. Guarded warehouse of 93d Sep Sec Bn: One-story brick building, 30 x 15 m. Contents unknown.
22. Two-story brick building: 80 x 30 m.
- 22a. Messhall and PX for 93d Sep Sec Bn: PX was also open to personnel of 117th Regt.
- 22b. This part of building (22) belonged to 117th Rifle Regt and contained garage for washing vehicles and a warehouse, contents of which were unknown.
23. One-story brick building: 30 x 15 m containing motor pool, garages, and their facilities for vehicles of 117th Rifle Regt. 50X1
50X1
24. Open area containing gymnastic apparatus such as horizontal bars, parallel bars, ropes, rings, side horse, and ladders. This was for personnel of 117th Rifle Regt.

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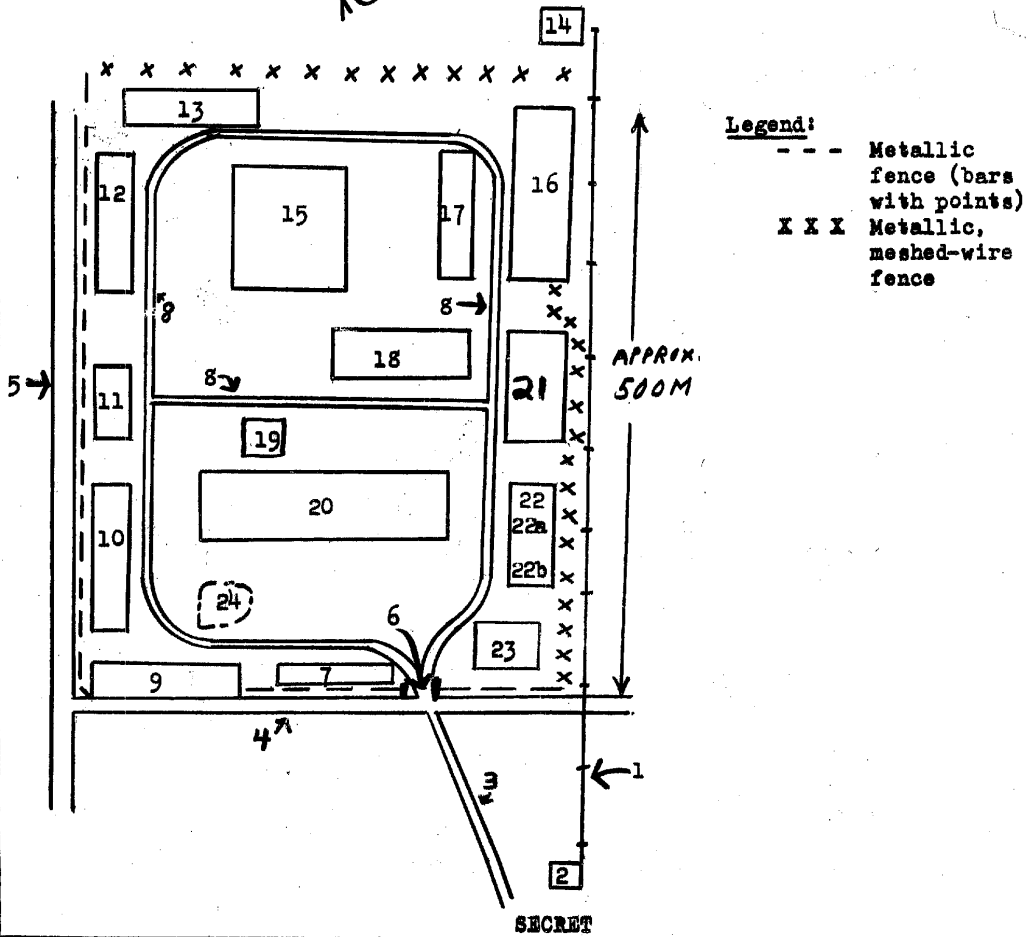
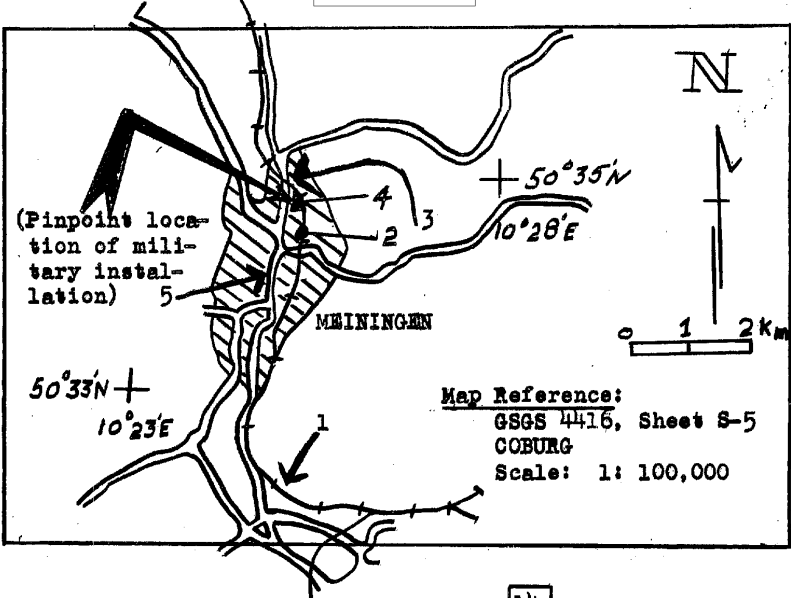
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Pinpoint Location and Sketch of Military Installation in

MEININGEN (5033N-1025E)

50X1 sketch is not drawn to scale)



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Pinpoint Location and Sketch of Area Occupied by 2d Co. 93d
Sep Security Bn in Schafhausen (N 50-34, E 10-10) and Vicinity
 (See sketch, page 18).

Note: All dimensions are approximate.

LEGEND:

1. Road Schafhausen - Gerthausen.
2. Partly paved road, about three to four meters wide, in very poor condition: Was used by vehicles bringing supplies to the 2d Co. of 93d Sep Sec Bn.
3. Dirt road used by German farmers going to and from work in the fields; led across 2d Co small arms firing range (see 24 below), about three to four meters wide.
4. Line of trenches surrounding entire area occupied by the 2d Co. Trenches were 160 cm deep and had been dug by the soldiers of the 2d Co. [redacted] they had been dug in November 1953. In spots marked "MG" on sketch were emplacements for LMGs consisting of small U-shaped firing pits separate from main row of trenches. The opening of the "U" faced away from company gunner. LMGs could be set up inside of "U" between both LMG gunners. Depth of trench was 160 cm. Trenches were not well maintained and crumbled under bad weather. They would often be filled with rain and even empty vodka bottles; and, on such occasions, soldiers would have to clean them out.
5. Path used by patrols going to and from border guard duty.
6. Latrine: wooden, four by two meters. The only building in the Co area having inside latrines was 7.
7. Officers' billets; one-story brick and wood building, 15 x 15 m. The three platoon commanders lived there; two of the officers lived on the first floor with their wives (one of these also had a child about two years old). The third officer, a bachelor, lived in an apartment built on top of this building.
8. Officers' billets; wooden, one-story building, 15 x 10 m. The company CO and the Political officer lived there with their families (each officer had one child but neither of them was of school age.)
9. Bathhouse and shoe repair workshop; one-story brick building, 15 x 20 m.
10. Wooden fence, two meters high, built out of wooden boards with spaces left in between. Fence was defective at a point approximately located at 11d (see item 11 below), and guards could sneak through fence at that point.
- 11, 11a, 11c. Small wooden gates, unguarded during the day. At night one guard patrolled outside the area between 11a and 11b from 2200 hours to 0200 hours, at which time he was relieved by a second guard who patrolled the same area until 0600 hours. Another two guards, furnished by attached VNOS personnel, patrolled inside the area from 11a to 11c and 11d. [redacted] At 11d a board was missing (see 10 above) and VNOS guards would frequently sneak out through the fence and speak or smoke with the guard from the 2d Co. This was forbidden but still occurred frequently.
12. Large wooden gate with cross-beam over the top with guard patrolling the road from this gate to gate 11 24 hours a day.
13. Coal shed; one-story building, 10 x 10 m.

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14. Open area for physical training containing parallel bars, horizontal bars, side-horse, ropes, and rings.
15. Soccer field.
16. Motor pool and garage sufficiently large to hold the three vehicles belonging to the 2d Co; one Willys, one ZIS truck, and one GAZ truck. It was a one-story, wooden building. It had no vehicle repair facilities.
17. Supply room: part of the motor pool building, but with separate entrance. It contained unknown amounts of ammunition for pistols, carbines, and LMGs; grenades; underwear and linen; soldiers' footlockers; and dress uniforms.
18. Flower beds surrounded by low brick walls.
19. Water fountain; spray pipe in center was about 80 cm high.
20. Gravel paths, about 1½ m wide; however, section of path leading from gate 11 a to 11 c was about 10 m wide, forming a plaza in front of the kaserne. Most of the paths were lined by a hedge 50 cm high formed out of evergreens.
21. Paved area, about 40 x 25 m, covered with earth; Vehicles driving in and out of the 2d Co area would maneuver and unload there.
22. Kaserne of the 2d Co, 93d Sep Sec Bn:
 - a. Corner of corridor or entrance hall where two boxes stood: one large box containing grenade fuses, five flare guns and flares. The second box, which was locked, contained about 15 pistols.
 - b. Table with phone, where the Co CQ usually sat. Stacked there were also three carbines and two small caliber rifles, the latter of which were used for hunting by the company officers and the first sergeant.
 - 50X1 c. Stacked SMGs, LMGs, and carbines belonging to the 1st platoon. 50X1
 - 50X1 d. Stacked SMGs, LMGs, and carbines belonging to the 3d platoon. 50X1
 - e. Dispensary also containing one German radio receiver. One medical private who was also responsible for monitoring the program received on the radio was on duty. This radio was wired to two loudspeakers, one located at the door of the kaserne, between a and b and on the outside and the second one in the Lenin or lecture room (see f below).
 - f. Lenin or lecture room.
 - g. Sleeping quarters for 1st platoon of 2d Co.
 - h. Briefing room for soldiers going on border guard patrol. Patrols received their orders in this room including detailed briefing with the help of a map of the area.
 - i. Headquarters of 2d Co and CO's office. One clerk was on duty there and the Political Officer also used this as his office.
 - j. First sergeant's room and office.
 - 50X1 k. Sleeping quarters for 2d Platoon.

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1. Washroom, did not contain either showers or toilets.
- m. Drying room, used to dry out uniforms and shoes, after border guard patrol duty.
- n. Mess hall for NCO's and privates.
- o. Sleeping quarters for 3d platoon.
- p. Kitchen.
- q. Sleeping quarters for VNOS personnel (1 sergeant and five privates).
- r. Supply room containing food.
- s. Radio station of VNOS personnel.

50X1

50X1

50X1

radio transmitter almost identical to the radio set shown on page 6 DA pamphlet No. 30-11-1, Foreign Military and Equipment, Volume VI, a hand microphone, radio key and a set of earphones. The room also contained a telephone and a chart of u/i non-Soviet planes. There was also a book containing 57 black and white drawings of American and English planes. 1

23. Trenches constructed in connection with atomic defense training classes about 250 m from the 2d Co area. Trenches were about 50 m long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m deep. The shelter could hold one squad. 2

24. Small arms firing range, located at about 200 m east of company area, about 300 m long. unit would fire there with SMGs at distances of 100, 150, and 200 m; with carbines at distances of 100, and 200 m; and with LMGs at distances of 275 and 300 m. Targets would be set up near dug-outs equipped with phones so that firing results could be phoned back. At southeast corner of firing range were trenches and a wooden dummy house for grenade-throwing practice.

50X1

50X1

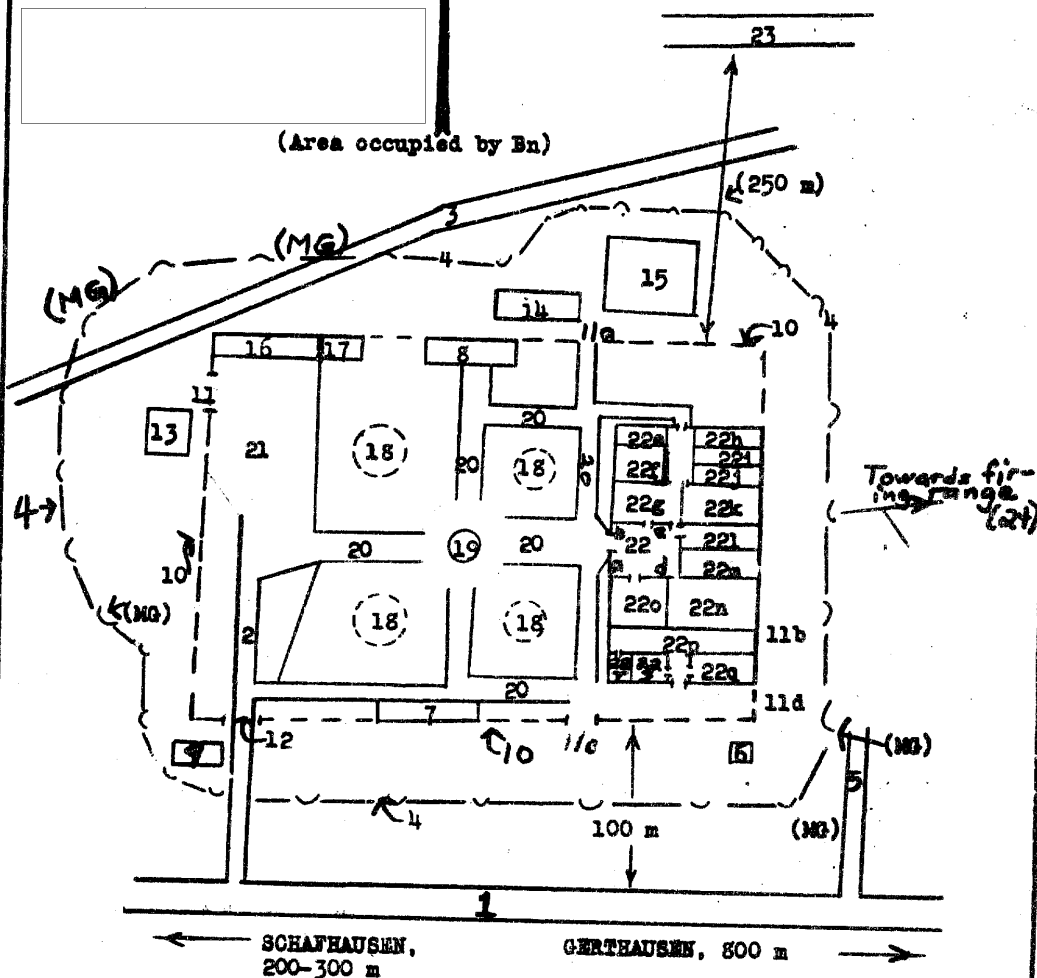
SECRET

50X1

(This sketch is not to scale.)

50X1

(Area occupied by Bn)



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